

**Briefing: Meeting with Senator Dan Sullivan (R-AK) & Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI)**  
**Tuesday, January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2018**  
**10:15am-11:00am – Admin's Office**

**Main Topics of Discussion:**

- "Save Our Seas" (SOS) Act of 2017 which is sponsored by Senator Sullivan (R-AK) and co-sponsored by Senator Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI).

**Legislative Background:** Senator Sullivan's legislation primarily focuses on the National Ocean and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). This legislation deals with marine debris from foreign countries which ocean currents bring to US beaches.

Specifically, the legislation would:

- Allow the NOAA Administrator to declare severe marine debris events and authorize funds to assist with cleanup and response.
- Reauthorize NOAA's Marine Debris Program through FY2022.
- Encourages greater Executive Branch engagement with foreign leaders regarding marine debris.

**Marine Debris, National & International:**

- Top 5 Countries Contributing to Plastic in the Ocean in 2010
  1. China (8.82 MMT/yr)
  2. Indonesia (3.22 MMT/yr)
  3. Philippines (1.88 MMT/yr)
  4. Vietnam (1.83 MMT/yr)
  5. Sri Lanka (1.59 MMT/yr)
- \* The United States is 20th on the list with 0.28 MMT/yr.

Deliberative Process / Ex. 5

**Attendees:**

Ryan Jackson, Chief of Staff  
Sarah Greenwalt, Senior Advisor to the Administrator  
Dave Ross, AA Office of Water  
Troy Lyons, AA Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Affairs  
Christian Palich, DAA Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Affairs